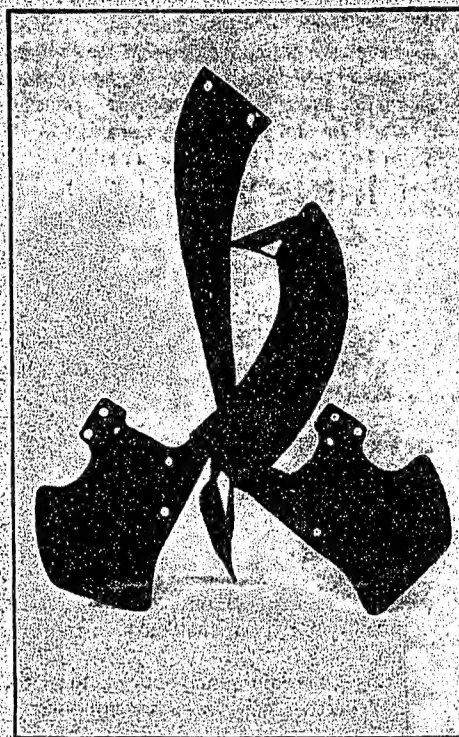


THE Gateway

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Faith
and begorra.
See page 6



Just artin' around

These are just a few of the works now on display as part of the Spring UNO Art Student Exhibition, being held in the UNO Art Gallery through April 4. (left) "Say Yes" by Wendy Wiggs, (above) "Pressure From Both Sides, My Masculinity is Killing Me" by Jeff Spenser, (right) "Infinite Dream" by Mark Wilfing.

—Photos by Roger Tunis.

Lack of options leads to permanent university cuts

In a letter to UNO faculty members, Chancellor Del Weber announced Monday that the university will permanently reduce personnel and program budgets by nearly \$1.2 million before July 1.

Appropriations reductions by the Legislature in June and November of last year required UNO to cut 3.1 percent of its total state-aided budget. Many of those cuts had been announced earlier; the chancellor's letter confirmed the reductions.

Ten full-time faculty positions and 15 other staff positions will be lost. After the \$1.2 million reduction, UNO's 1985/86 adjusted state appropriation is roughly \$22.3 million.

In his letter, Weber called the cuts "one of the hardest decisions" in the university's 78 year history. In selecting the areas of reduction, said Weber, the university sought to keep disruption of student services to a minimum and remain as comprehensive as possible.

"These reductions are difficult and painful for us to absorb, but we have no other options," Weber said in his letter. "Uni-

versities by their very nature are labor-intensive organization. Steep reductions, such as those we are experiencing, require us to pare down our operations and to work with given budgetary parameters."

The reductions, which total \$1,165,764, will be as follows:

The College of Arts and Sciences will be cut by \$159,620. The reductions will include the elimination of four faculty positions in communications, geography/geology and humanities. In addition, the college will experience reductions in part-time faculty and summer administration.

The College of Business Administration will be cut by \$69,000. The reduction will be felt in the elimination of three faculty positions.

The College of Continuing Studies will lose \$91,904. The reductions will be felt in the areas of state support for continuing education program development, television instruction (TV Classroom and Cox Cable Channel 19) and travel and operating expenses.

The College of Education will see a loss of \$68,540 from the elimination of three faculty positions in Counseling and Special Education; Teacher Education; and Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

The College of Fine Arts will lose \$28,520 in personnel and operating expenses.

The College of Graduate Studies and Research will be cut by \$7,820. The reduction will come from support staff in the dean's office and Grants Development.

The University Library budget will be cut by \$48,300. The cuts in the library will come from a reduction of the acquisition budget for books and periodicals and a reduction in operating expenses and student workers.

The College of Public Affairs and Community Service will be cut by \$54,280. The reductions will include the elimination of one support position and one graduate assistant position, and the reorganization of the Center for Applied Urban Research.

(continued on page 2)

AIDS commission seeks to prepare, educate campus

By MARK ELLIOTT

A new commission will be trying to help form an official university policy for dealing with students who have AIDS.

According to Joe Davis, assistant vice chancellor of Student Development Services, the idea for the commission came from Vice Chancellor Richard Hoover of Educational and Student Services. Davis said that Hoover had been "concerned for some time" about the possibility of an AIDS outbreak on campus.

The eight-person commission consists of Joe Davis, Mary Glogowski, personnel office; John Millar, production director of university television; Robert Bass, university medical director; Richard Stacy, professor; Dan Prescher, Gateway editor; Shelley Helzer, physician's assistant; and Barbara Hughes Maroney, coordinator of special programs.

According to Davis, there has yet to be a reported outbreak on campus, but feels it is just a question of time.

Shelley Helzer, physician's assistant at Health Services, feels that "sooner or later there will be an AIDS victim here."

She said the disease is in epidemic proportions throughout America.

"One-half of the gay population in San Francisco has the disease," she said, "and among those who are sexually active — 70 percent."

According to Helzer, the disease is 100 percent fatal, and 80 percent of those who get the disease die within two years.

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. The disease is caused by a virus, known as HTLV-III, which attacks and breaks down the immune system, making the victim unable to ward off infections or other diseases that would not normally threaten anyone with a properly functioning immune system.

According to a fact sheet supplied by the committee, AIDS is contracted when individuals exchange body fluids. While the AIDS virus can be found in almost all body fluids of infected individuals, only semen and blood carry a high enough concentration to present a danger.

This accounts for the five groups with the highest risk of contracting AIDS: (1) sexually active homosexual and bisexual men with multiple partners, (2) present or past users of intravenous drugs, (3) persons with hemophilia or other blood clotting disorders, (4) persons who have had transfusions with blood or blood products, and (5) heterosexual contacts of

someone with AIDS or at risk for AIDS.

There is a test for the presence of AIDS antibodies (substances produced in the blood to fight the AIDS virus), but it is as yet unclear how many people who have AIDS antibodies will eventually develop the disease itself.

Helzer said there have been 13 reported cases in Nebraska since 1983, 10 of which have been in Douglas County. She added that seven of those 13 are now dead.

Helzer said the main goal of the commission is to educate the university population about AIDS, and to prevent any kind of panic around campus.

She said the commission hopes to "provide different educational outlets such as lectures" to help inform people. She said these lectures would target select groups around campus such as fraternities, sororities, athletic groups, and student government.

According to Helzer, the commission will have to decide whether to have a set policy concerning victims of the disease or to treat each case as a separate incident. Helzer, who favors the individual case approach, hopes the commission's recommendation avoids the discrimination that has plagued other parts of the country.

New parking garage is for the birds

By DEANA VODICKA

The new parking garage is for the birds, according to Ann Norris.

Norris, a communication instructor, said she first noticed birds nesting in the garage about three weeks ago during a warm weather spell.

"All you have to do is look up," she said. "You'll hear the chirping before you hear the cars."

Norris said the birds have built nests on the first- and second-level lights, television cameras and curved electric pipes of the ceiling.

"They're every few feet," she said. "The birds fly in from the football field like fighter jets in formation. They go in and peel off in different directions."

Norris added that the problem is not limited to one or two birds. "The first thing I wondered was why we pay X number of dollars to park our cars under bird poop."

Charles Swank, however, said the birds are probably roosting rather than nesting.

"I don't know if there's any place they can nest. I don't know if nesting material will hold," Swank, chief of Campus Security, said.

"Like during a basketball game in the Fieldhouse, they may just be flying around."

Swank said the birds may have roosted on the cameras before they started operating, but doesn't think that's possible now.

"The garage came in early and everything didn't operate right away," he said. "Birds may possibly have roosted before operation, but I don't think they can when they're moving. The lights aren't wide enough and they're sloped so I think they'd just slide off."

Swank said no one had considered the possibility of a bird problem when building the garage.

According to Norris, however, birds have been a long-time problem in parking garages.

"Since the first parking garage was built, birds have been in them," she said. "Anybody who builds a parking garage is going to know about birds."

Norris said she can see why birds would gravitate to the shelter of the garage.

"It's an absolutely perfect place to grow baby birds," she said. "The rain and sleet can't get you and the lights and cameras are warm."

Norris added that unless preventive measures are taken to guard against intrusion, the parking garage will continue to be a haven for the birds.

"In a parking garage with lights and things, unless there's special effort, they're going to be there, especially in the middle of the woods."

Nobody gets fined for not drinking

This article contains opinions of the author.

By PATRICK C. STEPHENSON

Although St. Patrick's Day has evolved into a traditional holiday of drinking, drinking and more drinking, bar-hopping revelers may be surprised to find out that they won't be fined or jailed for not downing large quantities of green beer Monday night.

However, for those who plan to spend Tuesday morning with an icebag on their heads, it may be worth the time to take some advice from David Corbin, associate professor of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Speaking at a "college survival" seminar last week, Corbin discussed the social pressures that make many college students feel obligated to drink alcoholic beverages.

"If I said I could drink more milk than you can any day, nobody would think I was particularly great," said Corbin. "But if I said I could drink more *alcohol* than you, for some reason that's supposed to carry some sort of social status."

According to Corbin, this ability to "hold your liquor" may not be as great an ability as society plays it up to be. In fact, said Corbin, those who can "drink you under the table" are in more danger of becoming problem drinkers.

Corbin explained that vomiting or passing out is actually the body's way of protecting itself from a dangerous situation. Those who have done neither, he said, could potentially drink themselves to death if they seriously attempted to do so.

Society, however, prefers to look at the positive aspects of social drinking. Corbin made a partial list of words typically used to describe drunkenness (bombed, stewed, fried, blitzed, trashed, ripped) and pointed out that most of these words are comical in nature.

It is this "fun" impression of drinking, said Corbin, that leads many college students to feel they are obligated to drink if they want to have a good time. Similarly, the same attitude causes others to force a good time (drinking) upon their friends.

"I always tell students, if you want free drinks, tell people you don't drink. They'll bring drinks to you left and right," said Corbin. "It's just amazing how much other people will want you to drink."

Corbin, who teaches courses in Drug Awareness and Alcohol Education, said a common misconception is that alcohol is a

stimulant. This belief, he said, is due largely to the fact that after a few drinks most people lose some of their inhibitions and start dancing on tables or otherwise acting like goofballs.

In reality, said Corbin, alcohol acts as a depressant, numbing that part of the brain that would normally allow a person to use greater judgement and avoid doing silly things such as singing in public or saying stupid things to members of the opposite sex.

A natural conclusion then would be that giving coffee — a stimulant — to a drunk would actually help that person become sober. Unfortunately, said Corbin, coffee does nothing to help speed along the sobering process.

He explained that the actual process of becoming sober involves the liver metabolizing the alcohol in a person's system (one half ounce per hour). Coffee (or caffeine and other stimulants), he said, do nothing to help the liver perform this function. It merely makes for a more wide-awake drunk, he said.

"That doesn't mean that you shouldn't give them coffee," said Corbin. "At least that way they're not drinking any more alcohol and the time factor will go in your favor."

Another misconception about alcohol, said Corbin, is that it works as an aphrodisiac. A true aphrodisiac, he said, would make a person perform better sexually. Alcohol, on the other hand, simply makes a person want sex; it doesn't help the performance, he said.

"When you think about it," said Corbin, "if a person can't walk a straight line and can't talk, you can bet that person won't be too hot in the area of sexual activity."

For those who insist on drinking, however, Corbin offered a lesson that was learned by a previous generation. Although the substance was different, the logic still applies today.

"In the '60s when people were using all sorts of psychedelic drugs, at least they did one thing that we can learn from — they generally had a 'trip guide' who agreed not to take drugs," said Corbin. "Their sole purpose was to make sure that the people who did use the drugs didn't get hurt."

While Corbin stressed the point that he didn't want to tell anyone how to live their life, he did want to see them do one thing — avoid drinking and driving. "If you're going to go out and drink," he said, "you should recognize in advance that you're going to do stupid things, and you should plan accordingly."

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An information service designed to advise UNO students on campus organizations, services and departments. Please request tape by number 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Tough decisions, permanent reductions

(continued from page 1)

There will also be a reduction of \$132,562 in other budgets administered by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. The reductions will include the elimination of one support position in the Office of Academic Affairs and the elimination of central budget for part-time faculty (\$113,583). In addition, there will also be reductions in International Studies, Air Force ROTC, Honors Program, and Center for Improvement of Instruction.

Athletics will be faced with a budget cut of \$274,378, including the elimination of men's and women's track, and the elimination of state support for baseball with continuance dependent on private donor funds. In addition, athletics will face the elimination of one administrative position, further reductions in operating expenses, and replacement of \$100,000 in state support with increased student fees.

Business and Finance will be cut by \$133,756 with the elimination of five professional and service positions and the reclassification of one administrative position in Finance, Personnel, Grants Accounting, and Facilities Management and Plan-

ning. In addition, there will also be reductions in budgets for custodial services, building repair and maintenance, and equipment.

Campus Computing will face a reduction of \$22,053. The cut will include cancellation of plans to purchase 24 student access ports for the VAX system. In addition, there will be a deferral of plans to purchase a fire suppressant system in a computer room and additional hardware and software purchases.

The Chancellor's Office and University Relations will be cut by \$24,287, including the elimination of one professional position in University Television and the re-classification of two personnel lines in the Chancellor's Office. In addition, there will be reductions in the university catalog budget and the budgets of University Relations and University Television.

Educational and Student Services will be reduced by \$50,744, including the replacement of one full-time psychologist/counselor with two graduate assistants. There will also be the elimination of one support position in the Registrar's Office, the mailing of mid-term grade reports, and the Career Development Center, including one professional position.

Applications for the position of THE GATEWAY EDITOR

for the summer and fall semesters are now
available in Annex 26

Applicants should be familiar with the
guidelines for the student press adopted by the
Nebraska Board of Regents.
(Copies available upon request)

Deadline: Monday, April 7, 1986

Selection meeting: Monday, April 14, 1986

from 11:30-1 p.m., Board Room, MBSC

Salary: \$1,000 (summer); \$1,800 (fall)

For more information or applications, contact
Rosalie at The Gateway, 554-2470, or stop by Annex 26

Applicants must attend selection meeting!

This week

Friday, March 14

- Discussion: "Male/Female relationship customs in your country and mine," Student Center State Room, noon to 12:50 p.m.
- Movie: *The King and I*, Eppley Auditorium, 7 and 9:30 p.m.
- Theater: *Pinocchio*, Emmy Gifford Children's Theater, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

- Movie: *The King and I*, Eppley Auditorium, 7 and 9:30 p.m.
- Performance: "The Moving Company Presents Victoria Marks," University Theater, 8 p.m. Call the Box Office, 554-2335 for tickets.
- Workshop: "Ukrainian Egg Decorating, Joslyn Art Museum, 1 to 4 p.m. Fee is \$10 for members, \$12 for the public. Call 342-3300 to register.
- Concert: Horacio Gutierrez with the Omaha Symphony Orchestra, Orpheum Theater, 8 p.m.
- Comet Viewing: Q Twin Drive-In Theater, 120th and Q Sts., 3:30 to 5:30 a.m.
- Workshop: "Stepfamilies: Making It Work," Peter Kiewit Conference Center, 1 to 4 p.m. Call 328-2609 to register.
- Theater: *Pinocchio*, Emmy Gifford Children's Theater, 2 p.m.
- Tournament: Indoor Soccer Tournament, UNO Fieldhouse. Tickets are \$2 for adults, \$1 for students. For information call 554-2539.

Sunday, March 16

- Performance: "The Moving Company Presents Victoria Marks," University Theater, 4 p.m. Call the Box Office, 554-2335 for tickets.
- Movie: *Carousel*, Eppley Auditorium, 5 and 7:30 p.m.
- Comet Viewing: Q Twin Drive-In Theater, 120th and Q Sts., 3:30 to 5:30 a.m.
- Theater: *Pinocchio*, Emmy Gifford Children's Theater, 2 p.m.
- Tournament: Indoor Soccer Tournament, UNO Fieldhouse. Tickets are \$2 for adults, \$1 for students. For information call 554-2539.
- Book Sale: Temple Israel Used Book Sale, Regency Fashion Court, 120th and Regency Parkway, noon to 5 p.m.
- Dance: St. Patrick's Day Dance, Holy Name Church, 3014 N. 45th St., 6 to 10 p.m. Admission is \$5.
- Concert: Larry King at Joslyn Art Museum, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 17

- Reading: Fiction reading with Rick DeMarinis, Performing Arts Center Room 105, 8 p.m.
- Special Event: Arts and Crafts Spring Festival, Student Center Ballroom, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Presentation: "Czechoslovakia: Its Present and Past" with Karel Kucera, University Library Room 205. Refreshments at 7 p.m., program at 7:30 p.m.



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- Book Sale: Temple Israel Used Book Sale, Regency Fashion Court, 120th and Regency Parkway, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18

- Special Event: Arts and Crafts Spring Festival, Student Center Ballroom, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Discussion: Apartheid with Daniel Boamah-Wiafe, Alonzo Smith and Pamela Wren, University Library Room 205, 1:15 p.m.
- Meeting: UNO Toastmasters, Student Center, 11:30 a.m.
- Meeting: Adult Children of Alcoholics, Student Center Gallery Room, 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. All students and faculty welcome.
- Book Sale: Temple Israel Used Book Sale, Regency Fashion Court, 120th and Regency Parkway, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19

- Lecture: "Hispanic Urban Issues" with Herman Baca, Eppley Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- Book Sale: Temple Israel Used Book Sale, Regency Fashion Court, 120th and Regency Parkway, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

- Meeting: Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women, Student Center State Room, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Meeting: Student Senate, Student Center Dodge Room, 7 p.m.
- Discussion: AIDS, Student Center Council Room, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Seminar: Leadership skills with Dale McKemey, Presented by Omicron Delta Kappa, Student Center State Room, noon to 1:30 p.m.
- Seminar: "Buying for Retail" and "The Ever-changing World of Retail" with Jean Staats, Presented by Phi Chi Theta, Student Center Council Room, 5:30 p.m.
- Workshop: "Wrongful Discharge and Employment-at-Will," Peter Kiewit Conference Center, 13th and Farnam, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call 554-2618 to register.

Correction

An article in the Feb. 26 issue of the *Gateway* incorrectly stated that enrollment in the Medical Center's College of Pharmacy for the spring semester was down to 35 students, compared to 39 students in spring 1985. These figures should have referred to the Medical Center's undergraduate enrollment in dentistry.

Enrollment figures for the College of Pharmacy for this semester were actually 229, compared to 260 last spring. Ted Roche, associate dean of the College of Pharmacy, said the decline was due in part to the fact that fewer students were accepted into the professional program.

In the past, said Roche, 65 to 70 students were accepted to the pharmacy program each fall. That number has since been reduced to 50 students, he said.

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The UNO Student Publications Committee is now accepting applications for

Gateway Advertising Manager.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Responsible, self-motivated individual;

Knowledge of advertising sales, ad design & newspaper layout; Ability to sell advertising, recruit, train and manage a sales staff.

Must be a UNO student, and available to start mid-April and work during summer and fall semesters with first consideration for spring 1987.

Application forms available in the Gateway office, Annex 26.
Deadline to apply: 5 p.m., April 7

Applicants will be interviewed by the Publications Committee April 14, between 11:30 & 1 p.m. in the Board room of the Student Center.

For further information, contact Rosalie at The Gateway, 554-2470.

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Comment

Eppley and Annex 26 — So close, and yet so far away

The efficient gathering of news entails many things. At times it means aggressively pursuing reluctant sources, trying to glean information that they would rather not release. Other times it means following up information provided to the media beforehand by individuals or institutions. Much of what appears in the news media, and particularly, *when* it appears, is a function of cooperation between the media and those it serves and covers.

As anyone in the UNO community with any awareness knows by now, \$1.2 million will be cut from the UNO budget by July 1, 1986. The cut will include the loss of approximately 25 faculty and staff positions. The cut amounts to 3.1 percent of its total state-aided budget.

UNO Chancellor Del Weber, in a letter to university faculty and staff, called it "one of the hardest decisions in (the university's) 78 year history."

Big news, right? Pretty important stuff, right? Something you'd think the university newspaper would be let in on along with the rest of the media, right? Well, not quite.

If you have heard of the budget cuts, your information was found in almost every other conceivable media source in town *except* the *Gateway*.

As far as the university administration was concerned, late was soon enough for the *Gateway*. The first indication the *Gateway* staff had that the administration had just made one of the "hardest decisions" in its history was a noon radio report one of our columnists heard on the way to the printer Monday.

We were all surprised by this revelation, which seemed to have sprung, Athena-like, full-grown from the administration's head. Surely, we thought, we would have received some sort of warning, being the school newspaper and all.

Sure enough, back at the office there was Chancellor Weber's letter, which had arrived promptly a little after 1 p.m. in the

inter-campus mail. Surprise. Since our deadline had been Sunday night, and our next edition wouldn't come out until today, Friday, March 14, we all had the pleasure of seeing our school's huge budget cut and personnel reductions splashed all over town, while our Wednesday edition would blithely hit the stands without even a mention of it.

The disservice done by putting the *Gateway* on the bottom of the list for receiving information so crucial to the university it serves extends far beyond the relationship between this paper and the university administration. It shows that the student publication, and hence *the students of this university themselves*, are worthy of less consideration from the administration than the rest of the community at large.

The chancellor's letter was dated March 10, which, admittedly, is when we received it. Unfortunately, due to our publication schedule, we couldn't do doody about it until March 14. We wondered, would it have not been possible for University Relations to inform the school newspaper at least in time for our Wednesday edition, so we could have been scooped by only

two days instead of four?

Well, by golly, it seems there *was* a University Relations news release on the matter dated March 7. And, by golly, the *Gateway* didn't get it until March 11, when one of our staff dropped by the University Relations office at 5 p.m. and someone said, "Oh, by the way . . ."

Special consideration from the administration because of our deadline constraints is not expected. It would be nice, but it's not expected. We will always be at least three days behind media that have same-day and even same-instant capabilities.

What is expected, and I think reasonably so, is the *same* consideration other media organizations receive from the UNO administration. There is no doubt in my mind that information on the budget decision was available to *The World-Herald*, radio and television news services on March 7, the date of the news release. There is no doubt in my mind that University Relations knows *exactly* what deadlines are for these organizations.

There is also no doubt in my mind that someone somewhere in that office knows there is a school newspaper on campus and what its deadlines are.

The disservice done by putting the *Gateway* on the bottom of the list for receiving information so crucial to the university it serves extends far beyond the relationship between this paper and the university administration. It shows that the student publication, and hence *the students of this university themselves*, are worthy of less consideration from the administration than the rest of the community at large.

It is a regrettable state of affairs, and one that hopefully can be remedied, especially now when survival of this institution's present economic emergency depends on the cooperation of all involved . . . administration, faculty and students alike.

—DAN PRESCHER

Can St. Pat's really be the feast day of a holy man?

Over the years I've come to appreciate the facade of my Alsatian surname. It disguises the fact that most of the blood in my veins has trickled down through generations of Devlins, Ryans, Meehans, Goslins, Murphys, McDevitts, and who knows what others.

At a time when most Americans of Irish Catholic heritage celebrate their ancestral subjugation to Roman religious tyranny, I try to hold my breath and wait for things to return to normal. I never have understood why the feast day of a holy man should be celebrated in the ribald way most Americans behave on St. Patrick's Day.

My puzzlement over this day dates back to just before my sixth birthday and my fifth St. Patrick's Day when I ate an entire one-pound bag of green mellocreme candies in the tradition of surfeit that seemed to be so fervently observed in the neighborhood bars on March 17. I was proud of my participation in this apoplectic holiday until I began to regurgitate at various places around my house what seemed to be much more green candy than I had eaten. I was unable to extract an explanation from my mother for the subsequent beating I received, but I deduced that gorging and vomiting must have been activities reserved for adults that day.

Of course, not all Irish-Americans were the same. They commonly divided themselves with equal pride into drunken Irish and old lace Irish. I suspect our neighborhood had more than its share of the former, but there were those who spent St. Patrick's Day praying for the forgiveness of sins being committed in the course of St. Patrick's praise. These people had houses full of doilies. Doilies for vases and candy dishes. Doilies for picture frames and glasses. Doilies for doilies.

They also carried two sets of rosary beads at all times for the same reasons most people take two No. 2 pencils to a test. They could never tell when they might break or lose one string or run into a friend who needed to get in a few quick decats for some reason. To many this may sound trivial, but to the old lace Irish Catholics, failing to stock up on indulgences meant risking an extended tour in purgatory — a place like hell, except

Despite all these Irish roots, none of us knew anything about Ireland. None of us cared most of the time until St. Patrick's Day when we spoke the only Gaelic we knew, "*Erin go bragh*," which few could translate, and fewer could pronounce correctly.

that it wasn't forever. I recall being collared a few times and impressed into rosary duty. On the whole it was less unpleasant than throwing up masticated mellocreme shamrocks, but not by much.

St. Patrick's Day always seemed to be marred by fights too. Irish kids felt obligated to beligerently announce themselves to everyone else on that day, just to see if anyone objected to our heritage. Many did, and they always seemed to be bigger than we were. It was the same kind of irrational nationalism found in, would you believe, Ulster.

I suppose the most puzzling thing for me as a child was why

Irishness stayed in the closet for 364 days a year, notwithstanding the constant reminders that surrounded me. Most intersections in my neighborhood had at least one tavern with an Irish name. The bishop of our parish was named Graham; his priests, Donahue, Murray, Hughes, Kerrigan, among others. Even my boyhood friends had names like O'Brien, Devlin, Holleran, Graham, McCole, enough Kellys and Kelleys to sink a small ship,

I searched for notable contributions the Irish might have made to the world. More than anything else, they seemed to be known for their starvation during the 19th century potato famine. To take pride in such a thing would have required a truly Catholic attitude toward temporal suffering for eternal rewards.

and Nagy. Yes, Nagy. Every ethnic neighborhood has a token minority. Ours was Hungarian.

Despite all these Irish roots, none of us knew anything about Ireland. None of us cared most of the time until St. Patrick's Day when we spoke the only Gaelic we knew, "*Erin go bragh*," which few could translate, and fewer could pronounce correctly.

As I grew older I began to wonder what was so great about being Irish. None of us were, of course. We were all Americans, but why did people once a year feel compelled to decorate themselves like southern trees overgrown with kudzu? Why, if Ireland was such a great place, were there more Irishmen living on the East Coast of the United States than in the entire four Irish provinces? Why, if the Irish were so lucky, were guerrillas reduced to begging for money in a foreign country behind bingo tables covered with flags of the Irish Republican Army?

I searched for notable contributions the Irish might have made to the world. More than anything else, they seemed to be known for their starvation during the 19th century potato famine. To take pride in such a thing would have required a truly Catholic attitude toward temporal suffering for eternal rewards. I just didn't have it in me.

I did find out that Ireland had one of the earliest democracies of northern Europe, but the Scotch Presbyterians rained on that parade.

Ultimately, the most worthy thing the Irish appeared to have given the world was blarney. From the travelling shanachies who kept the oral history alive along with the ghosts and myths of old Erin, to the modern writers of world renown like Beckett, Yeats, and Uris, the Irish had a rich tradition of storytelling.

However, even the satisfaction of knowing the Irish from whom I descended had done something possibly better than any other culture did not make me feel Irish. Indeed, I came to believe that the best thing my specific ancestors had done was leave their island for this country.

I began to realize that I felt the same kind of excitement about the Fourth of July that so many people displayed on March 17, and I felt the same kind of historical distaste for British Colonialism that caused the birth of the United States as many Ulster Catholics must feel for Oliver Cromwell.

No, whatever sympathy I have for the Catholic plight in northern Ireland, past or present, it grows not from familial loyalty, but from the sense of moral objection to oppression in general — American constitutional morality — bred into me as I grew up free.

Most Irish-Americans who will don the green and dance a jig this coming holiday are at least two generations removed from the old country. Our connections with Irish ways have been effectively severed, our cultural umbilical cords cut. Many will enjoy the frenetic romp as pure escapism, and that's not necessarily bad, but it has nothing to do with true passion for one's heritage.

I will not be as stirred by green in March as I will by red, white, and blue in late May or early July. As much as I like Yeats, I prefer Twain and Steinbeck. As green as the Emerald Isle may be, I prefer amber waves of grain and the purple mountains' majesty. I won't wear any green on Monday, although as a minor concession, I'll be extra-careful not to wear orange.

Ireland might as well be as far in my past as Noah's Ark. The only heritage I embrace is that of the United States, a mongrel nation that celebrates its own intemperate tradition in an appropriately hot month. I'll pass on Monday's revelry and do my celebrating in July.

—J. FRANK AULT

The Gateway

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Op Ed



Mary Kenny Baum

"I have a...block. My brain...it's...uhhh...it's constipated!"

No, not a very delicate way to put it, nor even very sophisticated, but unfortunately, woefully accurate.

My friend, a recent UNO graduate, was suffering. She was at the edge of one life's long, double-edged sword. On one side, her creative, innovative writing skills had landed her a job in the advertising department of a medium-size corporation. That side of the sword—honed, gleaming, sharp—could be dubbed the Work Ethic. She had a JOB. That was her GOAL before, and immediately after she graduated.

But the other side of the blade, for my friend at least, had lost its luster, its edge. That side was her creativity, the very attribute she needed to get the job in the first place. She felt dull, sluggish, mentally and creatively "constipated." Basically, she felt she had sacrificed her creativity, or had at least been stifling it, while working 40 hours-plus every week.

That sword-reality—with employment on

one side, creativity on the other, had come down hard on the side of gainful employment and left her feeling empty, immobilized and unable to blend the two extremes.

She's a hostage, if not a victim, of the work ethic. And in this case, the terrorist is society at large. We're all potential victims.

We continued our conversation, and tried to imagine what kind of world it would be, if, rather than strict adherence to a work ethic, we all aspired to some creative ideal. We fantasized that people were encouraged, from the cradle to the grave, to contribute something creative.

We began with the premise that ALL of us, not just those who cut an impressive swath with a crayon as preschoolers, are creative artists of some kind. Everyone needs a little encouragement, that's all. Just as we're all potential victims of the work ethic, we're potential contributors in this creative utopia.

In this society, it would be anathema for an adult to ask a child what she wants to be when she grows up, because the reply would be inevitable. "An artist."

Replace work ethic with 'pleasure measure'

Parents would be thrilled if their child approached them with the news, "I want to act. I'm moving to the Big Apple. Wish me luck."

"Break a leg!" would come their cheerful response.

We realized the reason the work ethic had gotten so far out of hand was because results (at least in business and economic areas) can be visualized and measured. *Everything*—production, input, output, profit margins, losses, maximum effectiveness—can be mapped out, charted, graphed or displayed somehow. Business succeeds if they make a profit. People are paid if they effectively help that business realize a profit.

But how could we measure the creative "output" of a person? How could we measure the amount of energy that went into creating a new idea, or a poem or a piece of pottery? Or even a good riddle?

At the same time, could we devise a method to measure the pleasure derived from seeing, feeling, reading or somehow appreciating the object created? Or to assess the satisfaction the

artist gains after completing a project?

A "pleasure-measure"? That's the only way creative accomplishments could ever take precedence over the work ethic. Credibility and a new respect for various art forms would follow the latest statistical compilations verifying aesthetic appeal.

Imagine. Fiction writers and poets would no longer have to hide behind an imposter career in an effort to adhere to social decorum. Rather than saying, "I'm a teacher and I do a little writing on the side," they could freely admit, "I'm a writer," or "I'm a poet." What a cinch. How? Unlike the Gross National Product, the Aesthetics Indicators for Fiction and Poetry happened to rise last month.

Imagine.

By the time we realized how totally unrealistic and outlandish our utopia was, my friend and I were struck with another realization. We had taken one small idea—the abolition of the work ethic—and expanded it. We had created something new.

Her block bypassed, she went back to work.

Listen up, ladies: Get busy and fill those bassinets!

Of all the global problems about which to get into a lather, now comes another—the concern by demographers that a birth dearth in the United States and the nations of the western alliance could undermine our economic, political and military strength.

This is long-range stuff, about a century in the future. We are not about to be run over tomorrow by an overpopulated Third World.

But it does have serious implications for us today, because already the suggestion is being raised that it would be good public policy to pressure women to have more children.

Some of the people who examine geopolitical trends are alarmed because fertility rates are declining sharply among the industrial-democratic countries of the west while the birth rate in the Soviet bloc is gaining moderately and that in the less developed countries growing very rapidly. They fear our grandchildren could be lonely at the top, or even find they are no longer at the top.

When the post-war baby boom ended in 1965, birth rates in America turned downward and have stayed that way. Modern women, taking advantage of the availability of birth control, are having an average of 1.7 children (scholars live in their own world, have you ever seen a .7 child?) although 2.1 children per mother are required to maintain a stable population level.

What ominous developments this could portend for the western democracies was the subject of a recent symposium by the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative think tank here. The experts did not agree, but some inventive theories emerged to be duly recorded by *Public Interest*, AEI's excellent magazine.

The basic question is the degree to which sheer population figures affect a nation's power. Clearly, large nations have the

economic and military potential for global influence that small nations do not.

But superpower military clout is no longer as dependent upon troop strength as upon the possession of sophisticated nuclear and other technology, and the skills to operate them. An impoverished, undereducated population will never be a match beyond its region for a modern society, no matter what the numerical imbalance. It can harass, but it cannot conquer.

Only large countries with vast middle-class populations have tax bases broad enough to support the fantastically expensive defense systems that form this base of national power and security. The tiny Netherlands, for instance, could never afford to spend \$300 billion to develop Star Wars, even though it is a relatively prosperous nation.

So it is clear that numbers alone don't do the trick. The numbers must earn enough money to pay enough taxes to keep the government well-funded to provide for education, medicine, sanitation, research, technology and advanced industrial production.

Furthermore, numbers and prosperity are needed in tandem for peacetime economic clout in a work increasingly interdependent in trade. The size of the labor pool and the consumer market are critical factors. And large, wealthy nations, analysts Ben Wattenberg and Karl Zinsmeister point out, export goods and services such as movies and television programs that indirectly transmit values and culture, which is another means of influence.

But too many people can keep a country too poor to be a true world power; this is why India, the world's most populous democracy, does not play a role commensurate with her size. At a certain point, too many mouths to feed cripples a nation's ability to function above a minimal level. Fundamental values do not flourish on empty stomachs.

OK, so this demographic business is more complicated than it may seem at first. Does it matter that there's a pending population gap between the two superpowers, which the trends indicate will more than double by 2065? (I warned you there was nothing urgent about this problem, if indeed it is a problem at all.)

The World Bank projects a population of about 365 million in the Soviet Union in 2065, compared to about 278 million in the United States. The Soviets now have 277 million to our 240 million. In addition, the Eastern European population will be about the same as it is now, while the Western European numbers will have fallen.

Wattenberg and Zinsmeister argue that as the Soviet economy expands it will be easier for them to finance their military power and more difficult for us to keep up, since their relative per capita spending would go down and ours rise. On the other hand, they acknowledge that parts of the Soviet population growing most rapidly are Asian ethnics, who are largely closed out of the ruling Russian power structure and often not even fluent in the Russian language. This ethnic shift could cause grave internal conflict in the Soviet Union, counterbalancing its overall numerical advantage.

Despite disagreement about the import of all this, the general thrust of the symposium was that the population decline is not a good thing. "Is it history's cruel joke that a culture's success brings about its erosion?" Wattenberg and Zinsmeister ask.

The Wattenberg and Zinsmeister theory is that this is just an education problem; if young families today understood its overarching national importance they would be only too happy to patriotically fill those bassinets, regardless of their incomes, ambitions, marital happiness or child-rearing capabilities. This is such sophistry as to be dismissable in two words: how silly.

—MARIANNE MEANS

ACCESS

We've missed the point in the Philippines

As Washington officials trip over themselves congratulating one another for the "handling of the Philippines," I can't help but think that we've missed the point.

What took place in the Philippines was a remarkable and heartwarming display of human endeavor. And, while the U.S. played a key role in the final outcome, it was the Philippine people that gave birth to democracy and freedom.

The Reagan administration has exaggerated its role as the democratic midwife. One can only imagine what would have happened had the Philippine people called for a socialist government. Administration officials would be passing the buck instead of passing out cigars, to say the least.

But since it was a democratic birth, everyone is carrying on like a proud parent.

If the U.S. is indeed worthy of any credit, it should be awarded where it is most due. A recent article in *U.S. News and World Report* suggests that credit belongs to Jimmy Carter. I support this premise because it was Carter's human rights policy, in the final analysis, that planted the seeds of freedom.

Although highly criticized by his contemporaries for a weak foreign policy, I think history will bestow a nobler label on Carter. He reminded the world what our country stood for and stood against. He stressed those values and traditions we too often take for granted.

But there's more to it.

The Reagan administration has recently warned President Aquino about the potential danger of releasing some political opponents imprisoned by Ferdinand Marcos. Well, color me fascist!

Perhaps President Aquino, accused of political naivete, should be giving us a few lessons on democracy. After all, a democratic imperative is the right to opposition.

So, not only are we taking credit for the pregnancy and the birth, now we're imposing our views on how the child should be raised.

Unlike the Philippines, our democracy was contrived by a small group of radicals. The history of our nation is laced with difficulty, mistakes, and faults. Should we really try to instill our views of democracy on the Philippine people as if we are the only ones who know how to play the game? Should we force them to mold their democracy in our own image?

I think not. Their democracy can be fully realized only when those people indigenous to that nation are allowed to tinker with it and adjust it to their particular needs and desires.

If there is a lesson to be learned from the Philippines, it is perhaps that we should keep a low profile more often. The fall of the repressive regimes of both Haiti and the Philippines occurred in plain view of our own inactivity.

Reagan proposes major economic intervention in Nicaragua, but should we be opposing the Sandinistas if they represent the popular mandate of the Nicaraguan people? Simply because we consider their government to be the illegitimate child of the Soviet Union, does that mean we must kill it?

Had the Filipinos fought peacefully for socialism, it would have still been a beautiful declaration of independence. While the outcome was important, it was more important that the means to the end were achieved so peacefully.

The real parents of the Filipino democracy can be found in the hearts and minds of the Philippine people, not in the offices of Washington. I don't recall seeing any Americans

lying down in front of those tanks.

Long live the power of the people!

—WILLIAM HEAD
UNO Student

'All South Africans should have voting rights'

The U.S. was instrumental in the peaceful transition of the government in the Philippines. The transition was requested because the Reagan administration said there was widespread (voter) fraud in the Feb. 7 presidential election.

Many of the residents in South Africa are banned by law from voting. Is the U.S. concerned about the right of black South Africans to vote?

The Reagan administration has used various alibis to justify the plight of blacks in South Africa. The U.S. should abandon its hypocrisy and unequivocally denounce the racist policies in South Africa. The U.S. should pressure the government in South Africa to make a peaceful transition to a new government that will recognize all the residents as citizens and allow all the citizens the right to vote.

—TIMOTHY ASHFORD
Graduate Student

Weekend Wire . . . Something for the Irish in everyone

Faith and begorra sweet lads and lassies. The grand day 'tis near and every son and daughter of the Emerald Isle will be sporting a bright green shamrock to testify to their fine, bonnie blood.

Me own miserable calendar (may the devil take it to his infernal haunts) has fairly crawled toward the glorious celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

It's true what they say, you know. Everyone is Irish on St. Pat's Day. Yet it's curious that we here in the great, large land of America make a wee bit more of a shebang than the natives of the old sod.

Back in dear old Ireland, St. Patrick's Day is best known for a day of quiet ease. 'Tis considered good luck by the quaint folk there if the first shovels of earth for spring planting are turned on the good saint's feast day so that the potatoes might be planted by Good Friday.

I suppose the reason the Irish of other countries raise such a fuss over March 17, is the pain that of parting from the homeland, even three generations removed from the accursed famine ships, has always bedeviled us.

When the first potatoes turned black and began to rot in the root cellars in 1846, a poor land began to spill her proud people out into the wide, wicked world. Whether it's through family pride or national heritage, we've been trying to get back ever since.

Whether it is the wild outback of Australia, the streets of New York or even the Western plains where O'Neill and Wisner fight over the title of "the Irish Capital of Nebraska," this coming Monday will be ballyhooed in grand tradition.

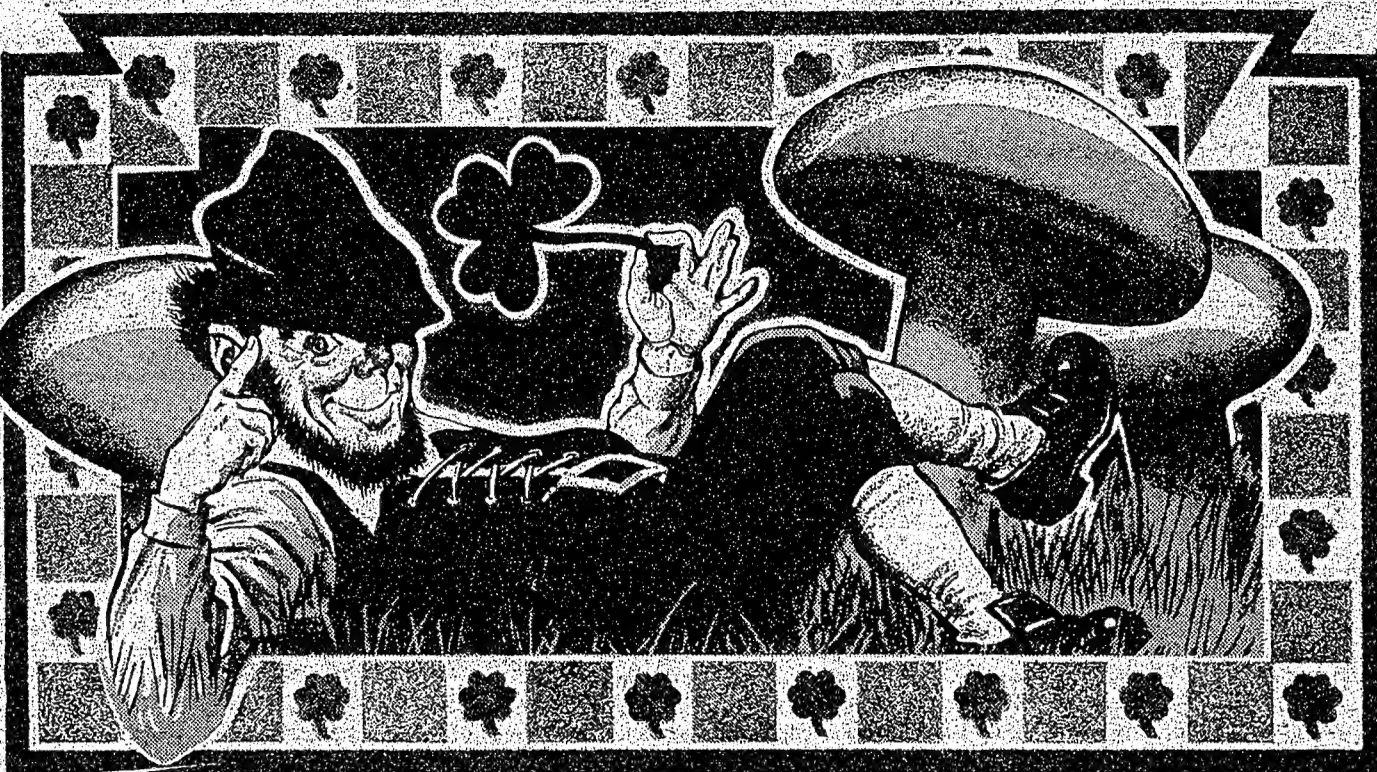
If you haven't guessed by now (and it must be a wee stout-rotted brain that couldn't), I'm taking time out from me own fevered preparations to discuss some of the sweetest spots to celebrate the glorious day.

To begin with, and as me dear grandmother used to say, "that's a fine, clever place to start," 'tis best to get sort of a running jump on the great green day, so as to squeeze every drop of Gaelic joy out of the wee 24 hours.

You can accomplish this wondrous task by taking part in the festivities this Sunday, at the Holy Name St. Patrick's Day Dance. Held in the cafeteria below the church at 2901 Fontenelle Boulevard, the dance is always one of the best-attended gatherings in the city.

And 'tis no wonder, with the many fine strains of Irish blood located in that good parish. There you'll be rubbing the elbow patches of your finest tweed jacket with the likes of the Dineens, O'Connors, Muldoons, Larkins, Rileys, McGills and Quinns, to name just a few.

The sweet celebration begins at 6 p.m. and features the music of Omaha's favorite Irish band, the Country Corkers. Also on hand to



entertain you will be traditional Irish Clog dancers, some Scottish pipers paying their respects to the grandest country on the face of the Earth, and a well-stocked and reasonably priced bar.

The price of admission is \$5 for adults and food is provided. 'Tis well worth the price if only you get to hear Tom Lahood, that good man with a fine, strong tenor voice, sing "Danny Boy."

If listening to that sad song of a father bidding farewell to his son who's going off to one of the world's vile wars isn't enough to break a misty film across your eyes, you aren't Irish, and it's highly doubtful whether you're even human. Most likely you're one of the terrible banshees that roam this wicked planet.

Come Monday morning then you should be in fine fettle to stand the continuous joy of joining the green throng in some of Omaha's many Irish taverns, pausing just long enough to attend the Maureen O'Brien St. Pat's Day parade beginning at noon, in downtown Millard, and led by our own Irish mayor Mike Boyle.

In case you're wondering, downtown Millard begins around 132nd and L streets. From there just about any friendly tavern can be your next stop, but here are a few whose authenticity I can personally attest to after long hours spent on the Shamrock Highway

Just a stone's toss from our UNO campus is Clancy's at 7120 Pacific. There the fine people open their doors at 6 a.m., and accommodate all the clan possible by removing all the tables and chairs.

Clancy's offers free corned beef sandwiches and dance music by disc jockeys. The music usually isn't Irish, but the spirit definitely is.

Just a babbling brook or so away, another pub called Danny's Place at 2007 N. 72nd Street is offering free corned beef and cabbage from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. From 7 p.m., 'til 11 they will also have DJ-orchestrated music.

Nearer to midtown, Sullivan's Bar at 3926 Farnam Street will open at 6 a.m. to serve that popular Gaelic breakfast, Irish Coffee. Around 7 a.m., Sullivan's will be one of the first stops of a corps of Irish bagpipers that will be wandering about town.

While you're in the area, the Dundee Dill over at 4946 Dodge Street is always one of the most popular places to insist on a St. Pat's kiss from a true daughter or son of the Emerald Isle. And remember, no real Irish can refuse that request on the blessed saint's day.

Saving some of the best for last, if you really want to do St. Pat's right, you can't miss stopping in The Dubliner Pub at 1205 Harney Street. There you'll be treated to free stew and the lilt of some of the sweetest Irish

brogues this side of Kilkenny.

During the day, the Dubliner offers music by The Traditionists and at night by The Turfmen. Be sure and have a Black and Tan beer there, it's one of the few places in Omaha you can find it.

If you're out Bellevue way, stop in at O'Connors Place at 504 S. Galvin Road. As usual, O'Connors offers corned beef and boiled potatoes. And the juke box is filled with Irish ballads.

In south Omaha, not stopping for a wee sip at Duffy's Tavern at 3727 Q Street is tantamount to calling Daniel O'Connell a British spy. Even that good, Irish patriot night indulge in a spot of poteen at the wild revelry you'll find at Duffy's.

Finally, at Sparky's at 119th and Pacific Streets, you can have another chance to listen to The Country Corkers. Special prices on drinks will be offered, and, I'm told 'tis an especially good place to kick up your heels with a fine Irish lass and dance a jig.

As a reminder, though, the good constables of our fine city will be out in force as well Monday night, so try to arrange a sober driver or some other means of transportation.

You wouldn't want to have to recover from your Irish hangover in city jail.

—KEVIN COLE



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See Details on pg. 12



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Don't forget Blave Combo Thurs. Mar. 20!

Review

'Mind Games' involves UNO students and professor

Omaha Workshop Theater's premiere performance, titled *Mind Games* —

"Is this table saved? Well, uh, are those two chairs open?" Two women were engaged in the art of seeking out sparse seating opportunities a few minutes before showtime. A man carrying a drink banged his leg into a chair as he tried to squeeze between two tables. People were actually forced to sit with people they didn't even know. And if I'd have had a yardstick handy I could've measured the stage in less than a minute.

The five satiric plays in *Mind Games* were suited to their tiny surroundings in the First Mate Tavern, because the audience was so much a part of them. The opening play, *The Bill Montagu Show*, parodied TV's own Phil Donahue. The host went into the audience to attain reaction to a man who had medically changed himself into a dog — a real live Irish setter on stage. Though the audience participants were preplanned, I sensed it would have worked almost as effectively just by asking for response from actual audience members.

Next up was a brief slice-of-life piece, *The Tridget* of Greva. It was a marked contrast to the other plays in *Mind Games*. *The Tridget* had no real conflict or definable plot. It was basically

a clever fish tale that explored the subtleties of three fishermen. Mark Thomas Booth brought out his part as the Tridget quite well with the use of intricate expressions.

Ring Lardner wrote *The Tridget*, while three of the other four plays were written by John Hicks and Dave Dechant. Hicks, a freshman-English professor at UNO, tended toward more outlandish, sometimes bordering on slapstick, productions. They stuck to television parodies throughout.

Hicks, who also directed the third piece, *Candid Cruelly*, said one of his goals was to show how cruel television is to its audience.

"Shows like *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous* make you feel awful about who you are. Our show makes you feel good about yourself," said Hicks.

Indeed, during the *Mind Games* piece *Lifestyles of the Poor and Wretched*, audience members are almost forced to feel good about themselves. The spotlighted character is so miserably wretched, he even makes the show's host look good.

The production qualities of *Mind Games* are another aspect that make the show work. Minimal make-up, props, and special

effects, help to break down barriers between the action on stage and the audience. The stage is on floor-level, which puts you right next to the performers. The only drawback to the low staging is that actors often block one another because of their proximity to the audience.

The final play of *Mind Games* was the most interesting of all. *The Actor's Nightmare* written by Christopher Durang and directed by Connie Sutherland, is a veritable assortment of plays within plays. It revolves around a man who is thrown into a world of acting which he knows nothing about. Rich Hallgren's performance as the man thrown into this cruel nightmare was worth the four bucks it cost to get in. Hallgren's character knows none of the lines to the play he's cast into, and the moment he starts to pick up on a few things, the play changes. Actually, you'd probably have to experience *The Actor's Nightmare* several times to understand everything that goes on.

Performances of *Mind Games* continue tonight and tomorrow night at the First Mate Tavern, 7763 Cass. Hicks said the show may run another week if this weekend's performances sell out. For ticket information call TIX, 342-7107.

—ROGER SIMONSEN

Review

Verandas — nothing if not marketable

The boys say themselves they just play what they play. If the market comes around, that's great.

Well, nobody can tell me The Verandas haven't done a little research in an attempt to meet the market halfway. Their new EP, *V-Notes*, is nothing if not marketable. It would give me immense high-horse reviewing pleasure to say that's all it is... I love panning bands who are nothing but marketable. But there are some nice moments on this pressing as well as a saleable sound.

The band is based in Cedar Rapids, and at first glance The Verandas resemble another Iowa outfit called Boys With Toys; the one-two, one-two rhythm fit the same poppish dance format.

The songs are all originals, written by vocalist/keyboard and harmonica player Marty Fauchier, who can do a fair Sting vocal cover, as on the song "American Tradition." Bill Watts

plays well-tempered guitars, the tunes not lending themselves to over-indulgent leads. Gary Darling and Mark Gannon round out the bass and drums, and the ensemble effect is that of a band just that far from getting some national airplay.

Although the mix, done in Cedar Falls at Catamount Studios, is excellent, there is some fine-tuning to be done. The aforementioned "American Tradition" is just a bit too Police, and a section of T.V. noise over the middle bridge sounds like studio camouflage for a hole with no better idea to fill it.

"Who Ya Gonna Blame Now," aside from being poor English, is way too long. Everybody in the band but Gannon sings, and sings well, but I have to believe the boys got carried away with their own voices in the earphones... the chorus is interminable.

Four of the five songs on the EP are about girls. Fauchier will grow out of it, I'm sure, but

he could take all those lyrics and make one good song... they're all about the same thing. "You're just a cruel temptation." "Who ya gonna run to when you're all alone." "I reached out to hold you, but you vanished in the haze." "Just fade away Rene," all from different songs, all the same. The one song that isn't about Fauchier's girl trouble is about television and movies and their effect on American society, kind of.

But what the effort lacks in variety and maturity it makes up for in brightness. These are some very danceable tunes, and it's evident this band does a fine job of live entertaining. They apparently do nice work when they visit UNO, and I hear that one of their originals, not on the album, even has the four-letter ca-ca word in it.

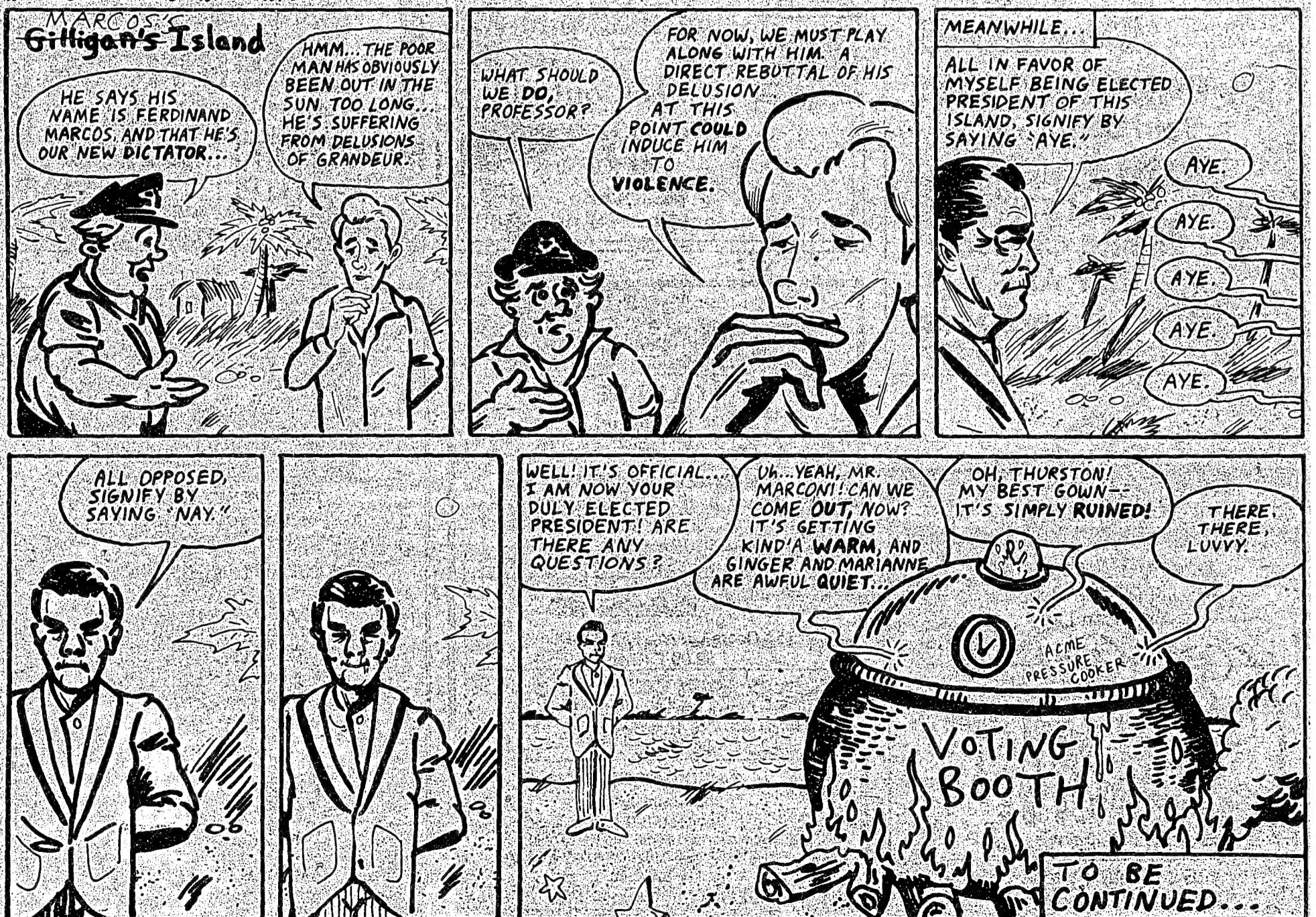
If they come again, I'm just interested enough to see them... even if it is at high noon, sober.

—DAN PRESCHER



The Verandas

"MUSCLES AND GUNS POWERED THE MARCOS MACHINE. IN ONE MANILLA SLUM, ARMED MEN RAIDED A PRECINCT, DUMPED THE BALLOTS INTO A STORM SEWER, AND STUFFED THE BOXES WITH REPLACEMENTS. IN MUNTINLUPA, THUGS FIRED INTO THE AIR TO DRIVE AWAY POLL WATCHERS—ONE OF WHOM WAS A CATHOLIC NUN." —NEWSWEEK



Review

'Pretty in Pink' oozes with high school life

John Hughes must be one of the world's oldest teenagers.

Hughes, who has written and directed such films as *Sixteen Candles*, *The Breakfast Club*, and *Weird Science*, once again sets his sights on the quasi-monumental crisis of high school life with his latest effort, *Pretty in Pink*.

Although not directed by Hughes (theater director Howard Deutch takes the chair while Hughes settles in as executive producer), *Pretty in Pink* simply oozes with the inside knowledge the writer has developed in regard to high school life. As in Hughes' other films, the teenage characters come across as real people, not some stereotypical source of bathroom humor.

In other words, if you enjoyed all or any of the above-mentioned films, there is a real good chance that you will also enjoy *Pretty in Pink*. On the other hand, if you simply felt the other films were nothing more than dumb teenage films about dumb teenage problems, then you'll be better off spending your time and money elsewhere.

Pretty in Pink explores the cliquish behavior than can be seen in the hallways and lunchrooms of most any high school in America (and a good number of colleges and universities, for that matter). If your high school had "burn-outs," "jocks," "brains," or even "geeks," you'll know where Hughes is coming from.

In this particular film, the school in question apparently has only two such cliques — Richies and Zoids. Richies are, quite simply, those richer-than-thou types who seem to think that a nice house, flashy car and trendy clothing make them prime candidates for demigod. Zoids, on the other hand, are the so-called "oddballs" who don't have money, don't wear nice clothing, and don't even make an attempt to conform with what teachers or society would consider the norm.

Molly Ringwald receives top billing for her portrayal of Andie Walsh, a bright, caring person who is frequently harassed by her snobbish peers for being a borderline Zoid. Ringwald, who has appeared in such films as *Sixteen Candles* and *The Breakfast Club*, is without a doubt one of the best young actresses in film today.

Ringwald, although less attractive than many of Hollywood's rising stars, brings an honest quality to her character that offers more appeal in itself than standard good looks ever could. It is this honesty that makes the character of Andie seem more like an actual person than some silly teenage character, battling with her silly teenage problems.

Andie is a high school senior who has survived without maternal guidance since she was 13 (her mother took off without a trace). She works part-time in a record store, makes her own clothes and someday hopes to make it as a fashion designer. Aside from the daily taunting she receives at school, her life is fairly routine.

Life becomes complicated for Andie when she falls for a borderline Richie named Blane McDonough. The character of Blane is portrayed by actor Andrew McCarthy, best remembered for roles in *Class* and *St. Elmo's Fire*. McCarthy, although a competent actor, creates the least interesting of any of this film's characters.

Blane, although deeply attracted to Andie, is forced to struggle with the almighty power of peer pressure (anybody who is anybody wouldn't be seen dead with a Zoid like Andie).

Complicating matters further is Andie's best friend, a full-fledged Zoid named Duckie Dale. The character of Duckie is portrayed wonderfully by actor Jon Cryer, best remembered for his starring role-opposite Demi Moore in *No Small Affair*.

Duckie, although a generally good guy, looks like a limp-wristed reject from the Romantics and acts like a whining used car salesman. Aside from that, his only other problem in life is that he is in love with Andie, who is in love with Blane, who thinks he's in love with Andie but really loves being loved by his rich friends, and so on.

It may sound trite on paper, but anyone who has fallen victim to peer pressure, unreturned affection, or wishy-washy dealings with the opposite sex, will surely find something in this movie with which they can relate.

Also worth mentioning is Harry Dean Stanton as Jack Walsh, Andie's father. Stanton has



Andrew McCarthy and Molly Ringwald star in *Pretty in Pink*, a romantic comedy by Paramount Pictures.

appeared in such films as *Young Doctors in Love*, *Christine*, and *Repo Man*.

Stanton creates a likeable character as the single parent who can't let go of the wife who walked out on him. If not for the pitiful way he handles his marital problems, Stanton's character would be the ideally compassionate parent that most "misunderstood" children dream of having.

James Spader, who most recently starred in the film *Tuff Turf*, clearly defines the meaning of the term "human slime" in his portrayal of Steff McKee, a preppy jerk who tries to talk Blane into dumping Andie. As it turns out, the reason he considers Andie "the wrong type" is because she previously rejected his own advances.

Annie Potts, who played the dizzy receptionist in *Ghostbusters*, is a joy as Andie's confidante and mother figure. As the ex-peacenik Iona,

Potts comes in a close second to Cryer as the most insane character of this film.

Not to leave anyone out, Frank Zappa's son, Dweezil, makes his feature motion picture debut as one of Andie's friends. It was only a bit part, and not a very good one, but anyone who has to go through life with a name like Dweezil deserves to be mentioned every now and then.

Once again, it must be stressed, if you can't accept the fact that teenagers are *real* people with *real* problems and *real* emotions, then you will probably find *Pretty in Pink* to be silly or boring or both. If, however, you can sympathize with the emotional traumas of high school life, there's a real good chance you'll enjoy this film.

Rated PG-13 (for foul language that pales in comparison to the vocabulary of genuine high school students), *Pretty in Pink* is now showing at the Maplewood 2, South Cinema 4, Cinema Center, and Q Cinema 6 theaters.

—PATRICK C. STEPHENSON



Molly Ringwald (left) listens attentively as funky record store manager Annie Potts recalls the '60s days of her youth.

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—Roger Tunis

Roger Rosseter (who plays Hugh) and Nadine Houston (Olive) find the butler, Dick Laverty, lying on the floor after he received a mysterious blow to the head during a 'Drop Dead' rehearsal.

Review

'Drop Dead' rescued by Grande Olde Players

The Grande Olde Players (GOP) got saddled with Wilbur Braun's *Drop Dead* when plans to produce another play went awry. Several sparkling performances, some rewriting and an eerie prologue rescues the GOP production.

"It's a kind of a fluff play," co-director Mark Manhart said. While Manhart usually updates and adapts a play to fit the talents of the two-year-old senior-citizen-theater troupe, he said it was the first time he had to rewrite a play to make it interesting.

Drop Dead superficially takes the form of a whodunnit. John Mayhew, scumbag millionaire, is whacked, thwacked and stabbed in his bed. The coroner's preliminary report yields contradictory and confusing evidence. Kreegan, the cop assigned to the case, discovers that almost everybody he's interviewed recently told Mayhew to "drop dead."

Braun failed to include the motive and the evidence in the fabric of the dialogue. There is foreshadowing, but clues and key evidence happen offstage.

Co-directors Manhart and Bertha Lou Davis do a marvelous job salvaging the plot, particularly with an opening scene that's free of dialogue. They create an almost Gothic mystery with

one lamp, chilling sound effects and chillier taped music. The imaginative and effective use of setting is a GOP first.

Readings of poems about death — Dylan Thomas' "Do Not Go Gentle," Ted Hughes' "Relic," and an anonymous poem, "When I Am Dead" — by Peg Smith (in later performances, Mary Evans or Paul Borge) add to the mood.

Unfortunately, the play, in spite of some good performances, doesn't sustain the mood.

Nadine Houston as Olive Mayhew heads the cast of mostly GOP newcomers. She gives a fine, straight performance as the heartbroken yet fiery mother. She's the only member of the household whose innocence the audience believes in.

Roger Rosseter's wimpy, weak Hugh Mayhew (he also plays the victim) had motive and opportunity. Except for some redeeming qualities at the close of the play, he's the primo suspect.

Early on, the butler, Larkin (Dick Laverty), might have done it. Laverty better be careful or he'll forever be typecast as a butler. Tall, proper, gaunt, outwardly professional, but shifty, Larkin had something to do with it. Larkin has an unsavory past, and Kreegan picks him.

Jack Moskovitz stars as the tactless, unsubtle, you're-guilty-as-heck Kreegan. Kreegan is going to get his inspector's badge with this case, and he'll bag his killer or else. Moskovitz brings to mind a more famous cop, Columbo. Not so much in style or substance, but in his choice of tailors.

GOP regular Ruth Nelson demanded a serious role this time, said Manhart. Nelson, a UNO biology department secretary and the troupe's comedienne, said of her role, "It's as serious as it gets." As Dorcas, the *Herald* reporter, assigned to interview the reluctant beraved family and out to solve the case, she is a riot.

The troupe billed this as its first serious play, but, if anything, GOP humor carries it through. Kreegan's harmless aggressiveness drew laughs from the audience, as did his suspects' frustration with his denseness.

Drop Dead continues March 14, 15 and 16 at the Christie Heights Senior Center and March 21, 22 and 23 at the Douglas County Extension Office. Friday and Saturday performances start at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday performances begin at 2 p.m. For reservations and information, call 551-2891.

—POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

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Sports

Awards 'twice as special'

Three UNO's women's basketball standouts were awarded All-North-Central-Conference (NCC) honors last week.

Laura J. Anderson was named All-NCC. Laura J. Anderson, who was injured during the final part of the season, averaged 18.2 points a game and 9.3 rebounds, according to Cherri Mankenberg, head coach of the Lady Mays.

Mankenberg said she had hoped Jackie Scholten would have made the All-NCC team, adding that Scholten "just missed it by a hair."

"You're always greedy," said Mankenberg. "If you get two, you would still like to have three."

Scholten earned all-academic honors along with Laura P. Anderson.

Scholten averaged 15.2 points a game and 9 rebounds. Laura P. Anderson had averages of 9.4 points a game and 4.6 rebounds.

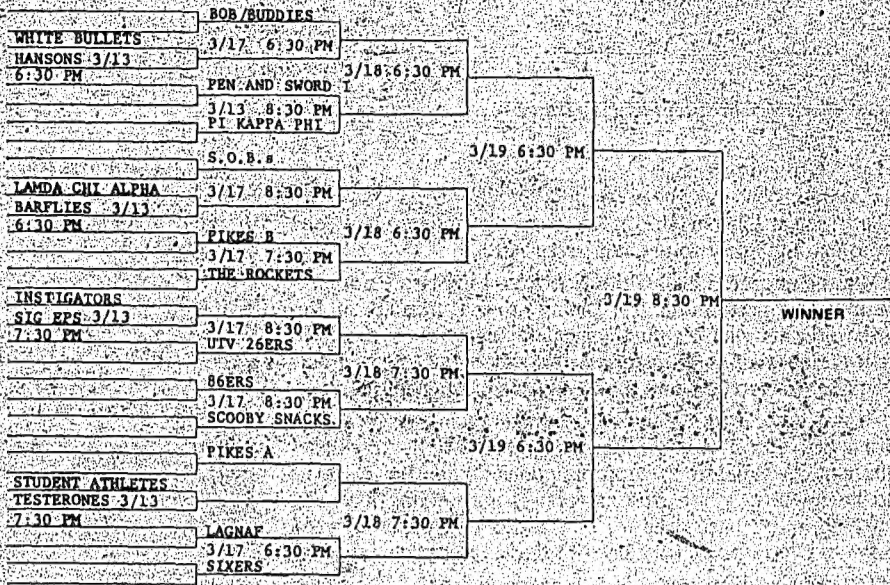
Requirements for the all-academic honors are a 2.8 grade-point average and sophomore

status. Laura P. Anderson carried a 3.6 grade average in mathematics while Scholten has a 3.4 in broadcast journalism.

"We emphasize academics first, and basketball is behind that," said Mankenberg. "When you think about all the time these kids put in to their education and athletics... it's quite an accomplishment. I'm just real proud of the grade-point averages they do have. With all the demands a college student has, it's (the award) twice as special."

Mankato State's Anne Christopherson and Jean Misterek of South Dakota were repeat selections of the 12-member all-academic squad.

Christopherson joined three other NCC athletes — Jenni Johnson of South Dakota State, Ann Pancoast of South Dakota and Carmella Johnson of UNO — as a third-time recipient of all-academic honors. Misterek earned all-academic last year.



Play ball!

Above is the tournament bracket for the "B" league of intramural basketball. All games will be played in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building. Players must present current UNO identification prior to participating in the tournament. The "A" league tournament bracket was not available Tuesday pending completion of the Vols vs. Players Eight game.

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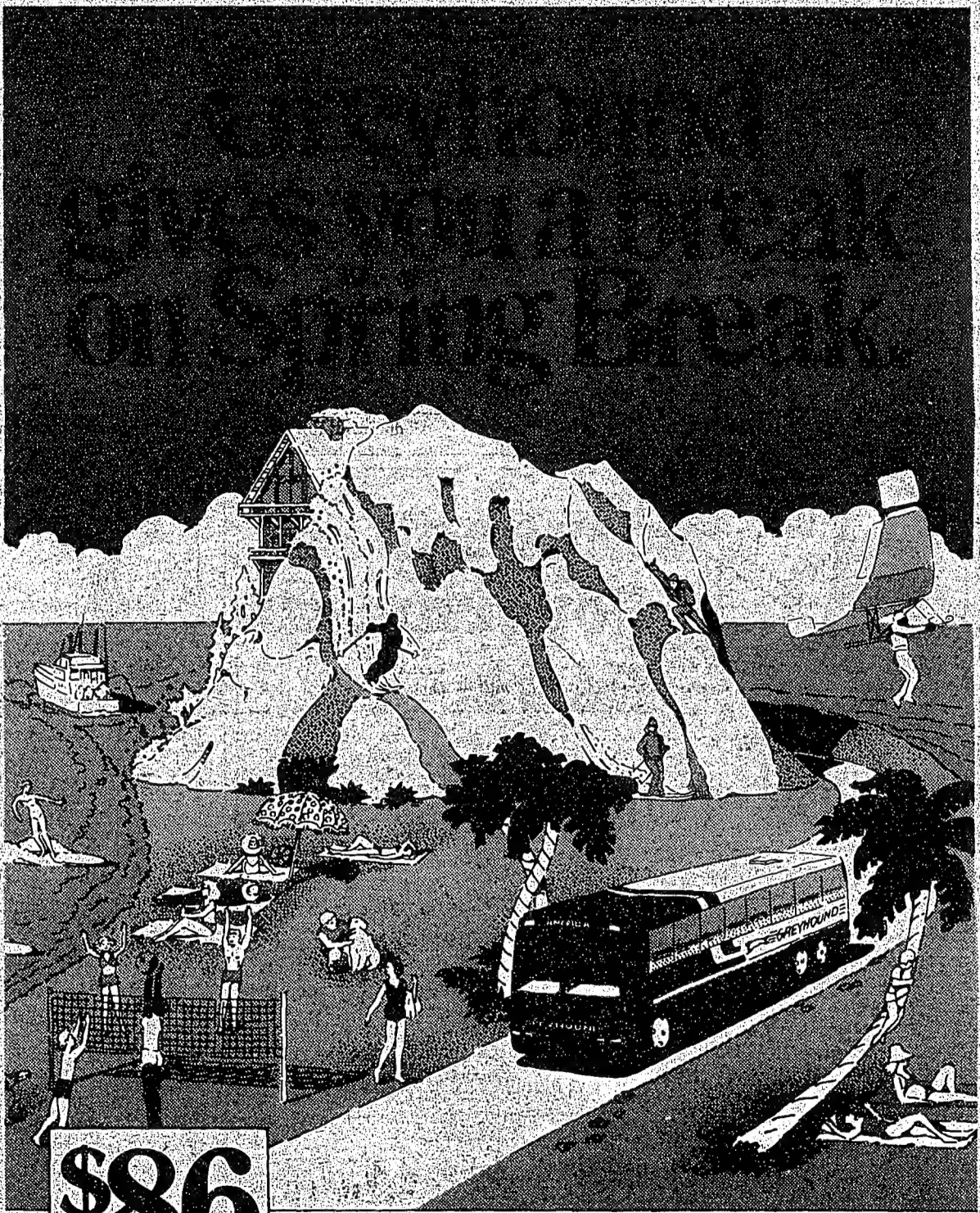
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Kevin McAndrews

'When the whip comes down'

This state is in trouble.

When Tom Osborne, head coach of football at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL), has to use his influence to defend education, you know something isn't right.

Osborne appeared before the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee Feb. 19, joining other University of Nebraska officials who testified against further cuts in the N.U. budget. Recent cuts have forced the elimination of programs and many are worried about the quality of education in Nebraska.

One of those many includes Osborne. According to a Feb. 26th article by Gateway staff writer Polidoros C. Pserros about testimony given before the Appropriations Committee, Osborne said he noticed "we're (the university) not serving incoming freshmen as we once used to." He added that upperclassmen cannot get the classes they need to finish their programs.

"Osborne said he noticed a 'perception from Lincoln and Omaha that you can't get a quality education in the state of Nebraska.' He said that point of view would be understandable if the comparison was made to Ivy League colleges such as Harvard and Yale, but the comparisons were being made with colleges such as Iowa State, Missouri and Kansas. He suggested that Nebraska should be aggressive in its view of higher education 'instead of being back on its heels and constantly defending itself.'"

Granted, Osborne's qualifications extend beyond coaching football. Osborne has a Ph.D. and is the assistant director of athletics and a professor of educational psychology and social foundations at the UNL.

But let's not kid ourselves. His claim to fame has been those Big Red Cornhuskers, and that is where his influence comes into play.

Still, give the man credit for making what *The Omaha World-Herald* called, "a rare and unannounced appearance." In a Feb. 20 article by former staff writer Jerry Mahoney ("Osborne, N.U. Officials Ask Halt of Fund Cuts"), Osborne was listed among the ranks of N.U. regents Robert Koefoot of Grand Island and Kermit Hansen of Elkhorn, N.U. President Ronald Roskens, chancellors of all three campuses, student regents, faculty senate officers and members of the faculty, all of whom testified at the hearing.

If these people's pleas cannot change the minds of our state senators, what do you think little ol' Tom Osborne could do? N.U. officials must have thought it couldn't hurt to toss in Osborne's influence, but it's sad our state is more engrossed with its famous football team than its educational system.

According to *The World-Herald* article, Osborne joked at the hearing that reductions in the number of courses available for the UNL football players might lessen the team's chances of beating Oklahoma, and to some, this jest might not be off the wall. But give Osborne credit. His concerns were more seriously directed toward the affect the cuts will have on the student in the N.U. system, rather than the athlete.

Sandy Buda, UNO head football coach, also attended the hearing in Lincoln. He said his concern is also the students more than the athlete.



Osborne testifies at a Feb. 19 Appropriations Committee hearing.

He said there was no question that further cuts will hurt the university, and that he is "scared to death it's going to continue to happen."

"The students are going to be hurt from further cuts," said Buda. "If you're in a four-year program... you can't graduate in four years because classes fill up. Students are having to stretch their education an extra semester and sometimes as much as a year longer."

Although students are most directly affected, Buda said the cuts have a "trickle down effect" upon athletics.

"We're not a pro-football factory," Buda said about the UNO program. "Most athletes come to UNO for an education. We are different as far as sports are concerned."

He said the student/athletes he talks to about coming to UNO are thinking "first of where they can get the best education." He added that many athletes he tries to recruit view their athletic career more for enjoyment, and are more serious about their education.

Buda said the recent cuts have had an effect on UNO's image of providing a decent education.

"UNO has always had a good program," said Buda. He added that UNO's educational program now "looks diluted" because of the recent cuts.

"We've always sold academics," Buda said about his recruiting efforts. "And if our image is tainted, then yes, it will hurt us."

Concern from coaches who must rely not only on talent, but on the academic quality of their athletes stems from rules being enforced by the National Collegiate Athletic Association for both Division I and II for an athlete to be academically sound. But both Osborne and Buda espouse quality education not only for the athlete, but for the student as well.

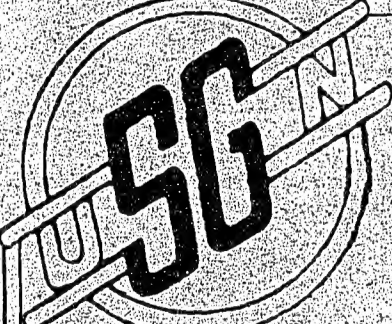
With the recent announcement that UNO will "permanently reduce personnel and program budgets by nearly \$1.2 million by July 1, 1986," there is no end in sight to the deterioration of education within the N.U. system.

The Legislature has given N.U. president Ronald Roskens an answer to his ultimatum delivered at the Feb. 19 hearing.

According to *The World-Herald* article, Roskens said: "To put it bluntly, either a first-rate university is important to the people of this state, or it is not."

Whether it is important to the people of the state is not clear. But whether it is important to the state's senators is another story. It appears some of the senators do not hold education very highly on their list of priorities.

The economy may be to blame for the present woes, but the state will pay dearly for ignorance.



Student Government News:

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